

This summer begins with much less fear than the summer of 2020. For that, we should all be thankful. However, the threats to our well-being persist. The gospel of Jesus Christ is the only power that can transform a human heart and restore us to the Creator's intended role. Each of us has a part to play in standing for the truth, sharing our personal stories of change, and advocating for the truth of Jesus Christ.

Thousands of rockets have been fired at Israel. Hamas, a terrorist organization, is celebrated as a force for freedom. A federal judge has ruled that Christian universities must abide by "transgender rules" emerging from Presidential executive orders. Censorship is expanding. I believe God is inviting us to "learn to stand." Let's accept the assignment, recognizing it is only with God's strength we can prevail.

For our prayers this week, let's proclaim God's Word over our lives.

Morning Prayer

Ephesians 6:10-13 (NIV®)

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

Mid-Day Prayer

Philippians 4:4-8 (NIV®)

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things.

Evening Prayer

Psalms 3:1-8 (NIV®)

¹ O LORD, how many are my foes! How many rise up against me!
² Many are saying of me, "God will not deliver him." Selah.
³ But you are a shield around me, O LORD; you bestow glory on me and lift up my head.
⁴ To the LORD I cry aloud, and he answers me from his holy hill. Selah.
⁵ I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the LORD sustains me.
⁶ I will not fear the tens of thousands drawn up against me on every side.
⁷ Arise, O LORD! Deliver me, O my God!
Strike all my enemies on the jaw; break the teeth of the wicked.
⁸ From the LORD comes deliverance. May your blessing be on your people. Selah.